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Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /090 W
----------182059Z 068376 /41
O 181820Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5818
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0597

GENEVA FOR SPEIGEL VIENNA FOR LAKE AND MC HENRY

FROM USDEL MAPUTO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, MZ
SUBJECT: MAPUTO CONFERENCE: BRITISH VIEWS ON CONFERENCE, UK
RHODESIAN INITIATIVE, AND LUSAKA VISIT

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG, AMBASSADOR DE PREE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES MET MAY 18 WITH TED ROWLANDS, AMBASSADOR MURRAY, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF BRITISH DELEGATION TO DISCUSS MAPUTO CONFERENCE AND UK RHODESIAN INITIATIVE.

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WM MAPUTO CONFERENCE: ROWLANDS, WHO LEFT MAPUTO MAY 18, NOTED REPORTS (SINCE CONFIRMED) THAT AFRICAN STRATEGY IS TO DEVELOP DRAFT DECLARATION WHICH CAN ENJOY GENERAL SUPPORT AND TO SUBMIT THAT AS DOCUMENT SEPARATE FROM PROGRAM OF ACTION WHICH THEY RECOGNIZE IS UNLIKELY TO ENJOY WESTERN SUPPORT. ROWLANDS COMMENTED THAT HIS UN HANDS, PRINCIPALLY AMBASSADOR MURRAY, BELIEVED THAT BRITISH DECISION TO SUPPORT THE DECLARATION BUT NOT

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THE PROGRAM OF ACTION COULD GIVE BRITAIN DIFFICULTY DOWN THE ROAD. AFRICANS, WHILE AGREEING TO SEPARATE DOCUMENTS NOW, MIGHT ATTEMPT TO LINK THEM IN THE FUTURE AND WEST WOULD BE ON DEFENSIVE. MURRAY CITED SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION DECLARATION AS THE NIEO AS AN EXAMPLE OF PROBLEM BRITISH HAD IN MIND.

3. WE NOTED THAT MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON LANGUAGE OF THE DECLARA-TIONAND PROGRAM OF ACTION. OUR OWN UN HANDS DID NOT SEE THE UN PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION AS QUITE SO UNMANAGEABLE, ASSUMING DECLARATION REALLY WAS ACCEPTABLE IN ITS PROVISIONS. IN CON-TRAST TO SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION, WE ALSO HAD THE EXAMPLE OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, WHERE OVERALL RESOLUTION WAS VERY POSI-TIVE YET STILL INCLUDED A NUMBER OF KEY PROVISIONS WHICH WE COULD NOT ACCEPT. OUR SOLUTION THEN WAS A SIMPLE STATEMENT SUPPORTING OVERALL DOCUMENT BUT NOTING PROVISIONS WHICH WE COULD NOT AC-CEPT. CONVERSATION ENDED WITH AGREEMENT THAT FIVE DELEGATIONS SHOULD WAIT TO SEE THE TEXT PRODUCED. BOTH DELEGATIONS SHARED THE VIEW THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK TO ENCOURAGE MODERATE AFRICAN MOOD MANIFEST AT THE CONFERENCE THUS FAR.

4. RHODESIA: ROWLANDS BRIEFED AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON CURRENT STATE OF UK INITIATIVE. NEW POINTS WRE: (A) ROWLANDS FRANKLY CONCEDED BRITISH CREDIBILITY AMONG THE AFRICANS IS NOW EXTREMELY LOW. HE NOTED THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD CALLED THREE TIMES ON PRESIDENT NY-ERERE WITH THREE DIFFERENT PLANS FOR RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT IN THE RECENT PAST. HE WOULD BE AS SUSPICIOUS AS THE TANZANIANS, GIVEN THIS RECORD. (B) HIS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT MUGABE IS THE MOST QUALIFIED TO RUN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE. DENIS GRENNON DEMURRED, SAYING THAT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF HAVING REAL SUP-CONFIDENTIAL

PORT PLUS ABILITY, NKOMO WAS SUPERIOR BUT ONE REASON WAS THAT JUGABE HAD NOT HAD A CHANCE TO BUILD A CONSTITUENCY WITHIN THE COUNTRY. (C) A SENSITIVE QUESTION FOR THE BRITISH IS THE LENGTH OF PERIOD FOR THE INERIM GOVERNMENT. THE LONGER THE PERIOD THE MORE THEE TENDS TO SURFACE THE VERY SERIES OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POWERS OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT WHICH DOOMED THE LAST EFFORT. YETREALISTICALLY, IN ORDER THAT ALL PARTIES HAVE A FAIR SHOT AT ELECTORAL SUCCESS, THERE WILL HAVE TO BE A RASONABLE PEROD OF TRANSITION. PRIVATELY, THE BRITISH ARE THINKING OF SIX MONTHS AS THE OUTWARD LIMIT. IF THE BLACKS EVER UNITED, THE PERIOD COULD BE AS LITTLE AS TWO MONTHS. (D) ON SANCTIONS, THE BRITISH POSI-TION IS THAT SANCTIONS WILL ONLY BE LIFTED WHEN THE PROCESS TOWARD INDEPENDENCE IS "IRREVOCABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE." ROWLANDS COM-MENTED THAT SOME TORY MPS ARGUE THAT THE BLACKS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TH BREAKDOWN IN THE EARLIER TALKS; CONSEQUENTLY, THE SANC-TIONS SHOULD NOW BE UNILATERALLY LIFTED. THE LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL STICK WITH THE "IRREVOCABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE" FORMULA.

5. LUSAKA VISIT: AMBASSDOR YOUNG RAISED THE INVITATION EX-

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TENDED AGAIN BY ZAMBIA THAT HE VISIT LUSAKA. ROWLANDS REACTED
VERY POSITIVELY, URGING HIS BRITISH COLLEAGUES PRESENT TO MAKE
CERTAIN THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS FULLY BRIEFED IN LUSAKA ABOUT
THE CURRENT TENSION BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND THE ZAMBIANS.
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TAGS: PORG, OCON, PDIP, OVIP, MZ, US, UK, RH, ZA, UN, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
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Type: TE
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